Wayland, July 26th

Dear Mrs. Chapman,

I like the Call to the Fair extremely, and return it with my signature. I have erased the s at the end of Mattie Griffith's name, because she told me it was a mistake to spell it with an s. I was very much pleased with Mattie, and the more I saw of her, the better I liked her. She is strong as a young lion, wherever her sense of right is concerned. Yet how girlish she seems! How youthfulness effervesces in her. Her cousin, partner of Prentiss, in the editorship of the Louisville Journal, took her away from me, for a ride, and so we parted somewhat hurriedly. He was determined to coax her to take a journey with him and a fashionable party from Kentucky, including the Governor and his daughter. She said the Governor's

MS. A. 5.1 no.31

daughter was a fashionable flirt, and she did not want to go. But he would not take No for an answer. She urged that knowing her sentiments, they would not like to have her join the party, to which he replied, in the true South Western style, "I should like to see the person who dares to object to your company, in my presence."
They have tried to frighten her by cutting her dead, and finding that does no good, I am inclined to think they mean to try what coaxing and flattery will do. She is worth trying for. If they have many such girls in Kentucky, it is a lucky State. I am glad you like her so much. The "smitation" is mutual.

Angelina Weld's resuscitation cannot justly be ascribed to her influence. Angelina wrote to me last winter, before she saw Mattie, that the Spirit often impelled her to go to work in the Anti-Slavery field again. I should have molded my voice to that of the Spirit,

had I not been withheld by fear of the influence of her Bloomer dress, which Mrs. Follen says "looks as if it was made of all the old dusting-cloths she could muster." I think the long interregnum in her anti-Slavery action is mainly to be attributed to her strong feeling that it was her duty to devote herself wholly to her children. They are now old enough to be trusted alone, and I suppose she feels free again. I never heard her say a word about Abby Foster, so cannot judge of her opinions.

But of one thing I am sure; that, to the day of my death, Stephen Foster will be as good as an unleashed bull-dog to keep me away from Anti-Slavery meetings. I could scarcely find words to express my extreme disapprobation of that man's way of doing things. All the gold of California could not pay for the mischief he and Henry C. Wright have done to the cause. They effectually repel even as earnest an abolitionist as I am, and

I would lay down my life to abolish slavery.

You and I think about alike [redacted] I believe [redacted] is truly kind-hearted, but [redacted], and insanely injudicious. [redacted] wont take it into [redacted] to turn abolitionist for whatever and whoever [redacted] to serve, [redacted] always gets into a "confounded muss" as the N. Yorkers say. I think Mattie's pride is a little fidgetted by her officious-ness in her affairs, although she feels grateful to her for her kindness. I told her I should be sorry to diminish her personal affection and gratitude to [redacted] but I begged she would never take her advice in practical matters, or allow her to manage for her, because she was totally deficient in judgment.

I should like to meet you at Abington, but travelling is expensive, and dollars are not plenty with me. Mr. Child desires cordial remembrance to you and Deborah.

Ever truly your friend, L. M. Child.

MWA.5.1 no.31 MS